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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

D. Johnson
#7 12-300
Attorney Docket No.: 009764-003531US

On January 21, 2000

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Smit Butt

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sherer et al.

Application No.: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: PROGRAMMED I/O ETHERNET
ADAPTER WITH EARLY
INTERRUPTIONS FOR
ACCELERATING DATA TRANSFER

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. A data communications adapter apparatus for coupling a host computer to a
2 computer network employing communications media, the adapter comprising:
3 ethernet control circuitry;
4 a host interface configured to exchange data with said host computer;
5 a transceiver coupled to receive and transmit data over the media;
6 a transmit data buffer coupled to said host interface;